



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Photos available upon request

Point Lobos State Reserve Celebrates 75 Years - Five Special Saturdays in May

During the entire month of May California State Parks is celebrating the beauty and the history of Point Lobos State Reserve and the 75th anniversary of becoming a State Park in 1933. Each Saturday in May Rangers and Volunteers will provide special programs and activities intended to highlight a different aspect of Point Lobos.

- Point Lobos State Reserve has been described as "...the greatest meeting of land and water in the world." (Frances McComas) Wind sculpted Monterey cypress trees cling to dramatic sheer granite headlands high above the pounding surf. Wave carved coves reveal picturesque white sand beaches with emerald-green waters.
- Often called the "crown jewel" of the California State Parks, the visual beauty of Point Lobos is just one aspect of what makes it special. 1,325 acres are home to an amazing number of both land and ocean animals. Sea otters, harbor seals and sea lions are year round residents, while gray whales travel close to shore during annual migration. Near-shore islands are rookeries thousands of seabirds. Miles of hiking trails trace the ocean shore, probe the oak and pine forests and wind through open meadows resplendent with wildflowers. The 750 underwater acres surrounding Point Lobos created the nation's first marine reserve.

The Five Special Saturdays in May:

May 3

Point Lobos - the Sea

Celebrate the "...greatest meeting of land and water..." highlighting the coastal and underwater features of Point Lobos. At Whaler's Cove see displays of historic diving gear and underwater photographs. Learn ocean safety from State Lifeguards. A variety of ocean conservation organizations will be joining in the celebration including the Monterey Bay Aquarium, MBARI and the Maritime Museum. Docents will have spotting scopes along the coast to watch for harbor seals and pups, sea otters and migrating gray whales.

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May 10

Point Lobos – Family Fun for Everyone

Discover the wonders of Point Lobos with activities that the whole family can enjoy together as a kick off to Mothers Day weekend. Fun activities like dressing up in a tree costume, adventure hikes, painting a watercolor landscape, tidepool walks and hiking in a wildflower meadow. Become a Junior Ranger when you do one or all of the activities!

May 17

People of Point Lobos

Honor the many people who have lived, worked and loved Point Lobos throughout history. This includes the Ohlone, Spanish/Mexican ranchers, Chinese fishermen, Portuguese (Azores) whalers and dairy farmers, Japanese abalone divers, and others. We will recognize those who had the foresight to protect Point Lobos for future generations. There will be living history demonstrations and activities, guided walks, and talks by descendants of those who lived here.

May 24

Point Lobos – the Land

Explore the plants and animals on land at Point Lobos, and the unique geology of the land itself. The day's activities will include guided wildflower walks, bird watching, and information on the native and invasive plants of Point Lobos. Learn how to protect the natural environment in your own backyard.

May 31

Point Lobos – the Arts

Painters, Poets & Photographers of Point Lobos

The artists inspired by the natural beauty of Point Lobos will be on hand to display their diverse work. The traditions of “Plein-air” artists will be shared. You can hike a trail accompanied by poets, learn the how-to’s of nature photography from local professionals, and enjoy the opportunity to create your own artistic impression of this beautiful place.

Point Lobos State Reserve is located 3 miles south of Carmel on Hwy. 1. The event is co-sponsored by California State Parks and the Point Lobos Association. Entrance fee for vehicles is \$9 including a park map. Senior Citizens are eligible for a discount. There is no charge for walk-in visitors and all activities are free. For more information, call (831)624-4909 or visit Web site: pointlobos.org

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